

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday, August 4, 2022

Riverside, OH

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

ROLL CALL: Council attendance was as follows: Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, absent; Ms. Fry, present; Mr. Joseph, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, absent; Mr. Maxfield, absent; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present was as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Tom Garrett, Finance Director; Dan Stitzel, Fire Chief; Frank Robinson, Police Chief; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to excuse Mrs. Franklin, Ms. Lommatzsch, and, Mr. Maxfield from the meeting. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: No changes were made to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the agenda. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

FIRE DEPARTMENT SWEAR IN: Mayor Williams swore in the following firefighter/paramedics: FF Evan Berger, FF John Booth, FF Derek Fourman, FF Isaac Hivner, FF Jones Kanak, and FF Phoenix Robinson. Mayor Williams swore in Jason Evans, who was promoted to lieutenant. Mayor Williams swore in Brian Taylor, who was promoted to battalion chief.

MINUTES: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Ms. Fry, to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2022, council business meeting. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

LIQUOR LICENSE: City council had no objection to the liquor license transfer from Patricia A Skeens, DBA Pats Lido Club, 4308 Springfield Pk, Riverside, OH 45431 to Cowboys Lodi Bike Stop LLC, DBA Cowboys Lodi Bike Stop, at the same address.

WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS: Mayor Williams stated any citizen wishing to speak should fill out a petition found at the back of the room and turn it in to the clerk.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

A) Police Department – Chief Robinson reported that his department is down five people at present. One officer, who is in the military, was deployed. He stated they do have an eligibility list for police officers, and they are interviewing the three people on that list they originally interviewed last September to see what they are doing now. If they do not pick anyone from that list, they will need to start over again. The G-Tech cameras have been

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delivered and are installed in six of the cars, thus far; all of the body cams are functional and being used. He stated the police department participated in the funeral procession for Clark County Deputy Matthew Yates. He stated that the National Night Out was last Tuesday and it was a great event, estimating between 500 – 600 people showed up. He thanked the following for their donations: Schwebels, Meijer, 7-Up, Home City Ice, Sandy's Towing, King's Cold Meats, and the Riverside Jaycees. It was a successful event and many from the police department worked hard to put the event together; Nick Toscani did a good job planning and getting everything squared away. Chief Robinson added that they are moving to put in place the School Resource Officer and Officer Toscani was selected as the Mad River Schools SRO.

B) Fire Department – Chief Stitzel stated the fire department participated in the National Night Out and teamed up with the police department. They were able to sign 30+ people on the Code Red program at the event. They held the Touch-A-Truck and performed an auto extrication at the event, which went off well. The fire department is working on transitioning its software and then once complete they will transition with SSI. He stated that FF Paula Balcom has put in for her retirement; they are sorry to see her go. She was able to get 20 people signed up for Code Red in Mad River Manor. Crews are doing hazardous materials training this week. They have the Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating; they are coming back out August 18 as a review. They look at how they are doing with the call volume, staffing, response time, dispatching, water system in the city and give them a rating. Currently, they are a '3', a weak '3', but they think they can get to a strong '3', but they are aiming for a low '2'. If they are able to do that it will give a little insurance savings. The last review was done in 2015 prior to Chief Stitzel coming on board.

C) Public Service Department/City Manager Report – Mr. Rauch stated they met with R.B. Jergens for the Harshman Wall repair, which will begin September 12. That will involve going down to one lane in both directions to ensure that crews are safe while doing the patching on the wall. The Eastman Project is mostly complete; they will continue to repair/replace some of the traffic signal loops that are at the intersection of Eastman and Woodman in the next few weeks. The Lynnhaven/Meyer Project is continuing on schedule. Needmore wrapped up a few weeks ago and Valley Street has also been completed and striped. He commended the public works department for all their work and oversight on the projects. On the city manager side, Mr. Rauch stated they continue to roll out the SSI Project and his focus over the next six months is to pivot that new financial software system and getting the budget rolled out. Senior staff has already started SSI training and training will be provided to the directors in October. He would like to get the budget through adoption sometime in November. He is aware the timing is aggressive but feels it will help start them up nicely beginning in 2023. He thanked the police department, fire department, and public works department for a job well done at National Night Out.

Deputy Mayor Denning asked if he had discussed the repair work on the Harshman Wall with the schools as transportation/busing will need to be aware. Mr. Rauch stated they need to have that conversation as well as follow up on the Burkhardt/Woodman intersection, an ODOT Project, the pole delivery was delayed and is not anticipated until September. There

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are a number of things they will follow up on. He added that their service department web page gives updates on projects as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: No one requested to make a comment on agenda items.

OLD BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

- I) Ordinance No. 22-O-798 – An ordinance determining to proceed with the improvement of certain streets between certain termini in the City of Riverside, Ohio, by lighting the same with electricity. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)**

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-798. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:27 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:27 pm.

Mr. Rauch stated this is a housekeeping ordinance that allows them to assess the cost of street lighting to property parcels in the city.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

- II) Ordinance No. 22-O-799 – An ordinance to make supplemental appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Riverside, State of Ohio, for the period January 1 through December 31, 2022, and declaring an emergency. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)**

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-799. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:28 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:28 pm.

Mr. Rauch stated this makes sure they have money to spend in the right places. The only thing coming out of the city's bank account or reserve is the turnout gear being procured by the fire department and they have plenty of fund balance to do it.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

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III) Ordinance No. 22-O-800 – An ordinance to repeal and replace Chapter 1503 Fire-Damaged Structures of Part Fifteen – Fire Prevention Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Riverside, Ohio. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Ms. Fry, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-800. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:29 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Rauch stated the original code was adopted by resolution and this action properly adopts it by ordinance.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

IV) Ordinance No. 22-O-801 – An ordinance amending Chapter 1501 Ohio Fire Code to include adoption of certain appendices of the International Fire Code to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Riverside, Ohio. 2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-801. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:30 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:31 pm.

Mr. Rauch stated they already adopt the Ohio Fire Code, but appendices must be adopted separately.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

V) Ordinance No. 22-O-802 – An ordinance authorizing all actions necessary to effect an opt-out electric service aggregation program pursuant to Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code, directing the City of Riverside, Ohio to submit a ballot question to the electors. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Ms. Fry, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-802. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:32 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:32 pm.

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Mayor Williams asked if this brings to the ballot a referendum on the aggregation they have been talking about. Mr. Rauch stated that was correct; this one is for electric, and the next ordinance is for gas. It provides the voters the option to choose aggregation for electricity and gas service. They are working on educational materials for the public. Mr. Joseph asked that while they are doing two separate ordinances, will it be one question on the ballot. Mr. Rauch replied that it will be two separate ballot questions, one for electricity and one for gas.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

- VI) Ordinance No. 22-O-803 – An ordinance authorizing all actions necessary to effect an opt-out natural gas service aggregation program pursuant to Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code, directing the City of Riverside, Ohio to submit a ballot question to the electors. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)**

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-803. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:34 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:34 pm.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

- I) Ordinance No. 22-O-804 – An ordinance to rename and repurpose City Fund 227, commonly known as the School Construction Fund, and declaring an emergency. (1st reading)**

Mr. Rauch stated that because they are receiving funds from the opioid settlement as a proceed from the state, they are required to put it into its own fund. They are reusing an old fund and in order to rename they must do so by ordinance.

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-804. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

B. RESOLUTIONS

- I) Resolution No. 22-R-2783 – A resolution authorizing the purchase of road salt for 2022-2023 and 2023 - 2024.**

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Mr. Rauch stated this resolution is a housekeeping item to purchase road salt through 2024.

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2783.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: No one wished to comment on non-agenda items.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Mr. Joseph praised the police and fire departments for the National Night Out and the good turnout. He stated the demonstration was good and the kids enjoyed it and the time they got to interact with the fire and police department. He thanked staff for the hard work they put into it. He praised Officer Toscani and could not think of a better person/resource for the students at the schools.

Mayor Williams echoed the comments on Officer Toscani and stated that his parents and Officer Toscani's parents grew up together, so he has been able to watch him come into this role in the community and seek out ways to positively affect young people. He stated he was born to be a school resource officer. This is what he has wanted to do. He added that kids from more than just Mad River Schools know him. He stated it was great to see all the staff turnout for this event. He stated that Mr. Dan Ryan is still painting fire hydrants and have gotten him and his sons to go out and paint as well. He added that his 4th grader was happy to paint fire hydrants on Sunday and then be able to tell the firefighters at National Night Out that he was painting hydrants as he was being a team member with them. This is the whole reason they are doing it, to be a part of the community. Mr. Dan Ryan is the one who gets credit for doing and starting this.

Deputy Mayor Denning echoed what Mr. Joseph said and thanked the Chiefs for being out there. He recalled when the first National Night Out was held in Community Park in the early 1990s. He knows everybody works together to make that happen. Being a part of this for as many years as he has, this year was one of the best organized to go and set up with names on tables. It was thought out and put together well. He added that there is a free movie at Shellabarger Park on Saturday night. The first 200 get a free sandwich, chips, drink, popcorn, and a sno-cone for free. The Jaycees are doing that because that is what they do. This is one of the things that the fundraisers the Jaycees does pays for. He explained the fees that must be paid to do this. It is a community event for people to come out and have a good time with their family. The movie being shown is 'Bad Guys'.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Denning, to adjourn. All were in favor. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.


Peter J. Williams, Mayor


Clerk of Council